

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-41. (Cancelled)

42. (Currently Amended) A medical connector for controlling the flow of fluid from a plurality of fluid sources; the connector comprising:

a valve comprising an opening adapted to receive a first fluid source and a wall structure defining an internal cavity, the cavity comprising a neck portion in fluid communication with the opening and a main portion with a larger internal diameter than the neck portion; and

a flexible element positioned in the cavity, ~~the flexible element~~ movable between a ~~first an uncompressed~~ position in which ~~a portion of the flexible element bears against the wall structure near the opening and obstructs fluid flow through the valve and a second compressed~~ position in which fluid flow is permitted through the valve, the flexible element comprising a proximal end, a distal end, and a flexible wall with an inner surface and an outer surface, the flexible element in the ~~first uncompressed~~ position comprising a first external diameter near the opening, a second external diameter in the neck portion and a third external diameter in the main portion, the second external diameter being smaller than the first external diameter and the third external diameter;

the flexible element in the first position further comprising a first internal diameter in the main portion, a second internal diameter in the main portion distal the first internal diameter, and a third internal diameter in the main portion distal the second internal diameter, the second internal diameter in the main portion being smaller than the first and third internal diameters in the main portion;

a tubular main body in fluid communication with the valve; and

a tubular branch adapted to receive a second fluid source and adapted to direct fluid from the second fluid source into the tubular main body.

43. (Currently Amended) The connector of Claim 42, further comprising a rigid member located within the flexible element.

44. (Currently Amended) The connector of Claim 43, wherein the rigid member comprises a spike.

45. (Currently Amended) The connector of Claim 43, wherein the rigid member and the ~~second tubular branch body~~ are integrally formed.
46. (Previously Presented) The connector of Claim 42, wherein the connector comprises a transparent material.
47. (Previously Presented) The connector of Claim 46, wherein the connector comprises a rigid plastic.
48. (Currently Amended) The connector of Claim 47, wherein the proximal an-end of the flexible element near the opening of the body in its first uncompressed position is substantially flat.
49. (Currently Amended) The connector of Claim 48, wherein the proximal end of the flexible element in the first uncompressed position ~~is~~ has an end substantially flush with the opening of the cavity of the valve.
50. (Currently Amended) The connector valve of Claim 49, wherein the medical valve further comprises a support member enabling the valve to be removably attached to the first fluid source.
51. (Currently Amended) The connector valve of Claim 43 wherein the rigid member is positioned within the flexible element to assist in supporting the flexible element and to assist in maintaining the flexible element along an axial centerline of the cavity when the flexible element moves between the first uncompressed position and the second compressed position.
52. (Currently Amended) The connector valve of Claim 49, wherein the flexible element substantially completely fills the opening in its first uncompressed position.
53. (Cancelled)
54. (New) The connector of Claim 42, wherein at least a portion of the outer surface of the wall of the flexible element between the first external diameter and the second external diameter is tapered.
55. (New) The connector of Claim 42, wherein at least a portion of the flexible element bears against the wall structure near the opening.

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56. (New) The connector of Claim 42, wherein the tubular main body has a longitudinal axis and the tubular branch has a longitudinal axis and the longitudinal axes of the tubular main body and tubular branch form an acute angle.